

Appl. No. 10/781,613
Docket No. CM2603CQ
Amdt. dated April 5, 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed on January 8, 2007
Customer No. 27752

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REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. No additional claims fee is believed to be due.

The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over King

Claims 1-12 have been rejected have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by King, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,595,567 (hereinafter "King"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as King does not teach a loop member for mechanical fastening having a pattern of intersection bond lines, wherein said pattern includes at least 3.2 pattern elements per square centimeter.

The Office Action states that "King also discloses the specific density of pattern elements being at least 3.2 pattern elements per square centimeter, i.e., at least 9 patterns per square centimeter, wherein each side of the pattern element is .3 centimeters long (column 8, lines 61-end and column 9, lines 1-2)." Applicants respectfully disagree. King does not teach pattern elements, as defined and claimed in the present invention. Rather, King teaches patterns having sides that measure between about 1.3cm and 0.3cm. King makes no mention of a pattern of intersecting bond lines defining unbonded pattern elements, each of the pattern elements being at least partially bounded by a non-linear segment of one of the bond lines, wherein the pattern includes at least 3.2 pattern elements per square centimeter.

As described on page 14, lines 5-17 of the specification, non-woven webs having 3.2 pattern elements per square centimeter have been found to produce excellent reliability when used as a loop fastener with hooks. It is believed that increased reliability is achieved because by introducing bond lines having non-linear segments, each pattern element has associated therewith more anchored fibers without a proportional increase in the percentage of overall bonded area. King does not teach a loop member for mechanical fastening having a pattern of intersection bond lines, wherein said pattern includes at least 3.2 pattern elements per square centimeter. The Office Action incorrectly concludes that the claimed pattern elements of the present invention are the same as the extrapolation of the pattern side measurements of the King invention.

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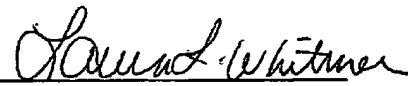
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Applicants contend that the King reference does not anticipate Applicants' Claims 1-12, as the King patent does not teach pattern elements as claimed in the present invention. Therefore, Applicants contend that the present invention is novel in view of King and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the issues raised by the Office Action has been addressed. Reconsideration and allowance of each of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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